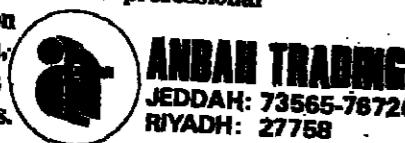


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FOURTEEN PAGES — ONE RIYAL

'Some success' achieved by Atherton-Israel talks

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — U.S. Mideast trouble-shooter Alfred Atherton Wednesday concluded lengthy talks in Israel with "some success," and said he would return here after visiting Egypt to resolve outstanding issues blocking progress toward a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

Atherton, who will leave for Cairo later Wednesday, said he would brief the Egyptian government on Israel's position on two troublesome treaty clauses. Washington would have to answer Israel's questions about a third clause, he said.

"We've succeeded in resolving most of the points," Atherton said "but we have not resolved them all."

Ceasefire agreed in south Lebanon

BEIRUT, Jan. 24 (Agencies)

A United Nations-arranged ceasefire brought quiet to the Israel-Lebanon frontier Wednesday after a week of rocket and artillery exchanges that brought the border conflict to its hottest point since Israel invaded south Lebanon last March.

The ceasefire went into effect at 6 a.m. (0400 GMT) according to a U.N. spokesman in Tel Aviv. It followed intensive diplomatic contacts among Beirut, Tel Aviv, Washington and the United Nations.

Reports reaching Beirut from both the southeast "Arjouti or "Faisland" area, the strategic island town of Nabatiyah and the port of Tyre in the southwest all confirmed that the shelling subsided Wednesday morning. All three areas are under Palestinian control.

Hundreds of civilians fled from southern towns and villages caught in the devastating Israeli bombardments by land-based long-range artillery and the broadsides from the powerful cannons of gunboats cruising offshore. Palestinian gunners fired salvos of Grad sur-

Atherton met 15 times with Ben-Eliyahu's team, and consulted often with Washington to clarify new ideas as they came up.

Israel's cabinet Wednesday raised unexpected last-minute objections to proposals drawn up with Atherton.

After more than three hours of debate, the cabinet ordered further discussion between Israeli representatives and the U.S. team.

When the compromise formula was agreed by the two teams Tuesday night Israeli and American officials expressed confidence that the cabinet would endorse it at Wednesday's special session.

Instead, Prime Minister Menachem Begin emerged from the cabinet session and told

newsmen: "The American and Israeli teams will have further discussions today to overcome the outstanding differences between them."

When the two teams finished their 14th session Wednesday night, informed sources said they had settled two of the three aspects under discussion and had agreed to let the third issue be handled at a later date on a higher level.

The sources expressed confidence the compromise would be approved by Begin as well as by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman. Such heavyweight support was thought certain to ensure swift approval by the cabinet.

Most of the discussion over the past week was on a paragraph in Article Six of the draft peace treaty. This states that the treaty supersedes Egypt's defense pledges to other Arab states.

Egypt wanted an accompanying letter to make clear it would still feel free to assist another Arab state attacked by Israel without cause. The compromise involved a painlessly worded definition of just what would constitute unprovoked aggression.

The other agreed compromise concerned the treaty's Article Four relating to security arrangements in Sinai after an Israeli withdrawal.

The still unresolved issue was the question of linking a peace treaty to progress in achieving Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank and in Gaza.

Israel again adamantly refused to consider any kind of linkage at all and this was left over for the countries' foreign ministers to tackle.

Begin told a group of parliamentarians Wednesday he could not say how long the peace negotiations would continue before a pact was signed.

He told members of the extreme orthodox Agudat Israel Party, which supports his coalition but has no ministers that he believed President Sadat was interested in having a treaty signed as soon as possible, participants at the meeting said.

Coffins of the five Palestinians killed in Monday's devastating bomb blast in West Beirut along with four passers-by, were carried by rifle-wielding commandos through a grieving crowd of some 20,000 Palestinians at the Sabra refugee camp.

At the funeral, Arafat described Salameh as "one of our sons."

"I wish to inform (Israeli Prime Minister Menachem) Begin," Arafat said, "our will will not submit nor will we."

"It was a scene of chaos, angry defiance and sorrow," a correspondent reported from the funeral site. Arafat wept openly as he carried Abu Hassan's coffin and hundreds of onlookers, waving the V-for victory sign, surged forward to touch the coffins before the burial.

The meeting was attended by Prince Nayef, minister of the interior, Prince Majed, minister of municipal and rural affairs, Sheikh Hisham Nazer, minister of planning, Dr. Ghazi Algosaibi, minister of industry and electricity, Dr. Soliman Salama, minister of commerce and Dr. Alawi Darwish Kayyal, minister of posts, telephones and telegraphs.

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For Islam, Muslims

Merchant plans to set up SR200m charity foundation

JEDDAH, Jan. 24 — A Saudi private businessman intends to launch a charitable foundation on the pattern of such philanthropic organizations as the Ford or Rockefeller Foundations "to serve Islam and Muslims," "Al-Jazirah" reported Wednesday.

The merchant, Sheikh ibn Ibrahim al-Basir, told "Al-Jazirah" that he intends to dedicate SR 200 million of his property and assets to create the foundation. "I want to see it grow and prosper in the service of Islam and Muslims in need," Basir said.

He said that Western charitable societies were considerably in advance of other countries. "As Muslims, we should be doing the same — if not more — to help our fellow men," he said.

In the project, Basir said he received encouragement from Minister of Higher Education Sheikh Hassan ibn Abdallah Al-Sheikh and from the example of the King Faisal Foundation.

SAFCO to ship 5,000 tons for Sudan project

JEDDAH, Jan. 24 — The Saudi Arabian Fertilizer Company (SAFCO) will supply a sugar project in Sudan with 5,000 tons of its annual production of urea fertilizer. SAFCO Administration Manager Saad Khayat said Wednesday.

A delegation from the Damman-based company returned this week from Khartoum after signing the agreement with the Kenana Sugar Company, which is operating a major project with investment from Arab countries. The Arab Investment Company, which recently ended board meetings in Riyadh, has put up a considerable portion of the capital for the Kenana project.

Khayat also said that the SAFCO group had initiated discussions with the Sudanese government for the shipment of fertilizer for its use. — Elias Haddad.



Sheikh ibn Ibrahim Al-Basir, a foundation, set up by the late king's heirs to reward excellence in Islamic research, Arabic literature and other fields.

The Faisal Foundation was announced in 1977 and is awaiting probate of assets, mostly land, estimated at SR700 million.

The Basir project has already been registered as a charitable organization with an independent statutory entity.

Fund to grant Pakistan \$92m for power plant

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 24 (AP) — Saudi Arabia will grant a \$92 million loan to Pakistan to finance establishment of a thermal power station, official sources said Wednesday.

The Saudi Fund for Development will provide the loan. The total cost of the project is \$317 million, of which \$183 million is in foreign exchange.

The Asian Development Bank has agreed to give Pakistan a \$60 million credit and the French government another \$31 million to meet the foreign exchange requirement.

The 200-megawatt thermal plant will be built at Pipri near Karachi.

the paper said. Its declared objective is to develop the properties set aside by the founder by sale and purchase, investment, development and rental. Part of the income will be allocated to the promotion of religious research, the propagation of Islam and prizes for distinguished work in Islamic and Arabic studies. These prizes will number 200 with a total value of SR5 million and will be awarded to ulama and men and women scholars.

The foundation also intends:

- to despatch Islamic missionary teams to the United States, Europe, Africa and the Far East,

- aid schools and colleges to promote Arabic studies,

- print and publish books on Islam in Arabic and other languages,

- help young Muslims to pursue higher education,

- provide grants for "constructive" scientific research in various fields,

- provide relief for the poor, orphans, widows and those in distress because of fire, earthquakes, flood or other natural catastrophes.

The foundation will be administered by a board of trustees, an executive council and a number of honorary members appointed by the board.

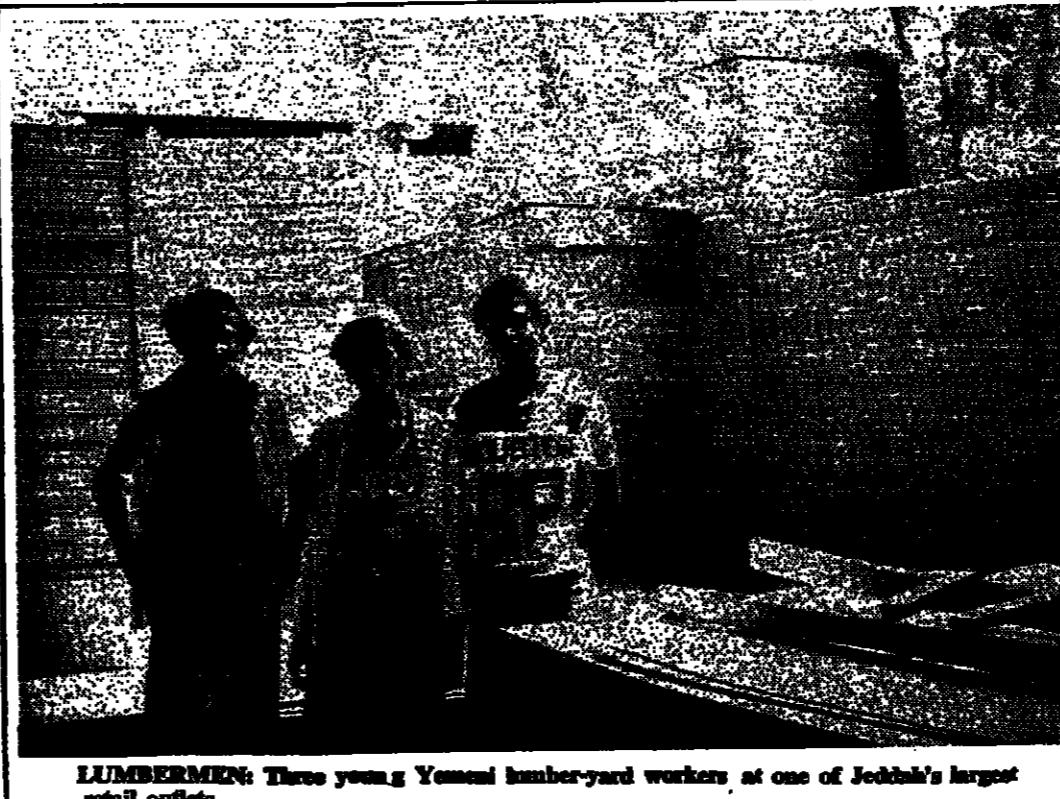
It will be assisted by consultants from Saudi Arabia and abroad.

U.K. regional delegation due here to boost trade

JEDDAH, Jan. 24 — A 15-man trade mission organized by the North of England Development Council will arrive here Saturday for a ten-day tour of Saudi Arabia.

The mission will be in Jeddah until Feb. 1, before moving to Riyadh and thence to the Eastern Province on Feb. 5.

The mission will seek Saudi outlets for goods ranging from beachwear to insulation equipment, paint and wallpaper, telescopes, and engineering and



LUMBERMEN: Three young Yemeni lumber-yard workers at one of Jeddah's largest retail outlets.

Conference enters 4th day

Aide, experts view building policy

RIYADH, Jan. 24 (SPA) — Deputy Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs for Town Planning Omar Abdullah Qadi Wednesday met experts in housing and rehabilitation in Riyadh for the Islamic Geography Conference at King Fahd Conference Hall.

The meeting discussed the building and planning policy now being prepared for the Kingdom next five-year plan by the ministry's Directorate

General for Studies and Research. The policy, being drawn up in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning, will provide the main base for municipal and rural development in the 1980-1985 period.

Committee considered a paper on Islamic minorities submitted by Muhammad Afaf and another by Hussein Sufian on Islamic minorities in South Africa.

The two sides also discussed the recommendations of the conference, which entered its fourth day of discussions Wednesday. The conference, the first of its kind, is being organized by Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University here.

The housing committee debated a paper presented by Dr. Abdul Fatah Abu Ali on centers of housing growth in Saudi Arabia.

The economic committee held a seminar on energy and mineral resources in the Muslim world. Discussions covered papers by Dr. Ahmed Al-Qasab on the problems of Tunisian cases, Dr. Said Ibrahim Badawi on industrial development in Saudi Arabia and Dr. Eid Khatib on industrial development and its economic and social impact in Tunisia.

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Iran protesters take control of Paris embassy

PARIS, Jan. 24 (R) — Iranian students have taken over their country's embassy in Paris and proclaimed it "The embassy of the Islamic republic of Iran."

Ignored by police guarding the embassy, some 40 students burst into the adjoining consulate Tuesday then moved in to the embassy. There was no violence.

"The embassy staff welcomed us and helped us tear down the Shah's portraits," one student said. A bust of the Shah's father, founder of the Pahlavi

Iran evacuees arrive safely in Bahrain

BAHRAYN. Jan. 24 (R) — Some 50 foreigners evacuated from the southern Iranian oil city of Ahvaz arrived in Bahrain Wednesday. One described the atmosphere in the troubled town as grim and tense.

The evacuees, including Americans and Britons, arrived aboard a Royal Air Force plane.

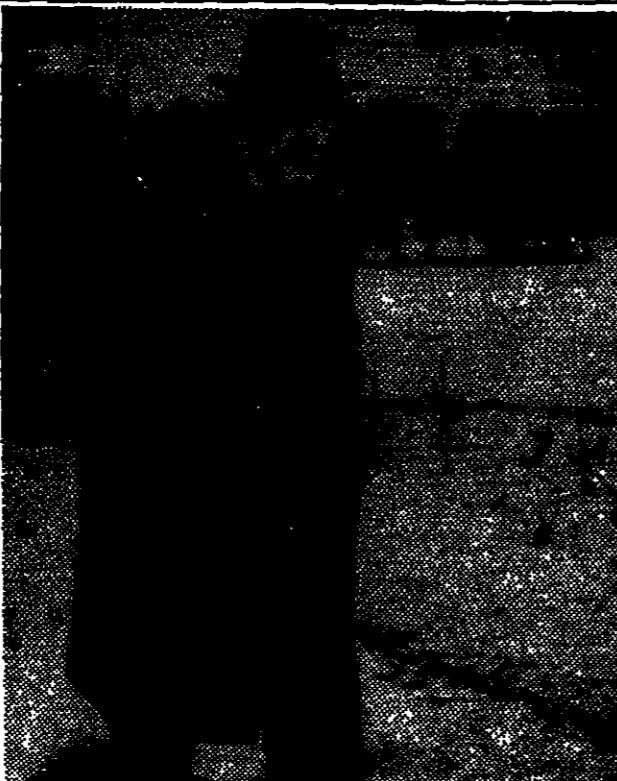
A British spokesman in Tehran said more flights were planned during the day to bring out additional oil experts and their families from Ahvaz.

The foreigners had been advised by the local Iranian commander to leave after seeing clashes there last week between demonstrators for and against the Shah.

One of the 40 Britons on the first flight said hostility towards foreigners in the town was mounting and posters telling outsiders to go home were plastered on cars and houses.

Meanwhile, the Shah's younger children and his mother-in-law are being flown to Morocco to join him, it was learned Tuesday night.

An Iranian Air Force Boeing 707 jet landed at Reese Air Force base at Lubbock, Texas, shortly after 2200 GMT. Sources in Washington, asking not to be named, said the Shah's relatives would be taken aboard for the flight to Morocco where the Shah is staying.



RESIGNED: Jafar Tahamt, former president of the Iranian Regency Council, leaves his house in Paris Monday after tendering his resignation.

Kissinger blames U.S. for undermining Shah

NEW ORLEANS, La. Jan. 24 (UPI) — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger Tuesday blamed shifts in American foreign policy — including President Carter's human rights campaign — for the downfall of the Shah of Iran. "We owe the Shah of Iran at least the decency of recognizing he was a good friend

of the U.S." Kissinger told a convention of broadcasters. "When we needed help in policing the Vietnamese agreement he gave us Iranian troops without question. In an area of turmoil, he stood by the U.S. without question for 31 years. Now in his time of travail, we should show other people that the American people and their government don't forget those who stood by us in our times of need."

Kissinger blamed three factors in American policy for leading to and compounding the Iranian crisis: Carter's human rights campaign, the decline of American influence in world politics since the fall of Vietnam, and what he called "the disintegration of the Central Intelligence Agency" because of congressional scrutiny.

"For five years now congressional committees have had a grand old time proving mistakes have been made by the CIA and exhibiting the whole operation for public scrutiny," Kissinger said. "It is amazing how little has been found in the way of transgressions in proportion to what was given up in the capacity to gather intelligence."

He said the Iran situation was the latest in a series of political upheavals, including the invasion of Cambodia, Cuban troops in Africa, and a coup in Afghanistan.

Bones of Canada tourist found near Luxor tombs

CAIRO, Jan. 24 (AP) — After a two-year search, police have discovered the bones of a Canadian tourist who had disappeared in a labyrinth beyond the pharaonic temples of Karnak and Luxor, the newspaper "Al Ahram" reported Wednesday.

It said the skeleton of Carol Harrold was found in a five-meter-deep, 20-meter-long, winding archeological ditch in the heart of a mountain north of the 3,500-year-old tombs.

The skeleton bore the victim's address and at her side was a handbag with a postcard on which she had scribbled a few lines telling about her fall into the labyrinth during a lone stroll about the excavation.

The words also stated that she was "preparing herself to die out of hunger and thirst and feeling sorry for being unable to survive," the paper said.

"Al Ahram" quoted police sources as saying that Miss Harrold had gone to Luxor in Upper Egypt in December 1976 when she suddenly vanished leaving her baggage at a downtown hotel room.

Rescue squads combed craggy mountain locations and archeological sites at the time but failed to locate her. International police were alerted but their reports yielded no trace of Miss Harrold.

Subsequently, Egyptian police resumed a search in the mountain area where the skeleton was found. "Al Ahram" added.

Delay made official in Assad-Bakr talks

DAMASCUS, Jan. 24 (AP) — A long-awaited summit here between President Hafez Assad of Syria and Ahmed Hassan el Bakr of Iraq, expected this week, has been postponed until

late next week, officials here confirmed Wednesday.

Reason for the delay was not given, although some diplomatic sources here said President Bakr is reported to be ill.

The summit is aimed at solidifying a reconciliation between the two neighboring countries agreed upon last October primarily to counter effects of an expected peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

Decade

But speculation that the two countries, which had been feuding for more than a decade, would merge fully into one nation is regarded by most informed observers as highly premature, if not unrealistic.

"Our understanding is that they are working on coordination in several fields but not integration," a diplomat with access to the Syrian-Iraqi negotiations said recently.

Before either country can consider merger, the two regimes must iron out serious differences between their respective factions of the ruling Baath Party, analysts say.

Oil

Full military cooperation also has yet to be achieved, the sources report.

In the most significant achievement yet, Iraq has agreed to restore the flow of oil through a Syrian pipeline that was closed in 1976 during a flare-up in the two countries' dispute.

They have also agreed on

other economic cooperation schemes which are expected to be formalized at the Assad

Bakr summit.

41 bandits said killed in Ethiopia

LONDON, Jan. 24 (R) — Forty one "anti-people" bandits were killed and another 65 wounded men captured in a search operation in Ethiopia this week, Addis Ababa Radio, monitored in London, said Tuesday. The people of Bizer in Tigray region, in collaboration with army brigades carried out the operation.

Teetotaller dies at 130 in UAE

ABU DHABI, Jan. 24 (UPI) — The oldest citizen of the United Arab Emirates has died at the age of 130, the newspaper "Emirates News" said Wednesday. It said Ibrahim Bin Ali Almarzouqi, a resident of Ras Al Khaimah, had only suffered from eye disease during his life and had abstained from both tobacco and alcohol. He had 19 children — four surviving — and 32 grandchildren.

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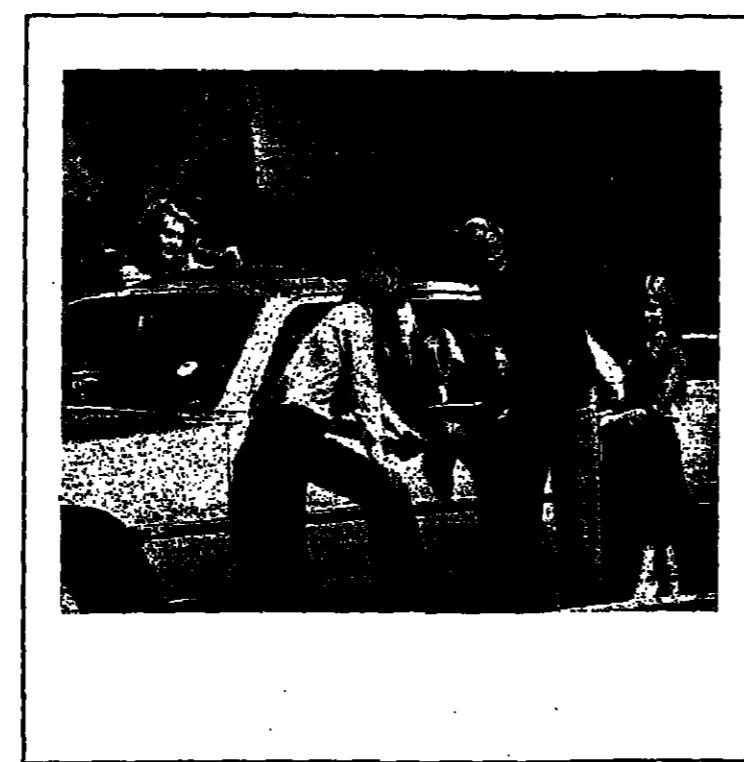
1- Built-in electronic flash for night shots.



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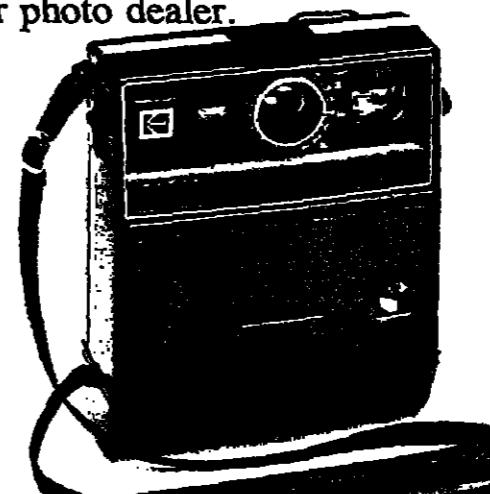
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State of the Union address**Carter calls for 'new foundation'**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — President Carter asked Congress Tuesday night to help him build "a new foundation" for prosperity at home and peace abroad, dismissing the notions that America's only choices are between inflation and recession, confrontation and surrender.

In a State of the Union address that marked the midway point of his four-year term, Carter made no dramatic new proposals, but bid for enactment of those he already has outlined.

He said those proposals would be the basis for the "new foundation" that was both the theme of his message.

"The new foundation I have discussed tonight can help us build a nation and a world where every child is nurtured and can look to the future with hope — where the resources now wasted on war can be turned towards human needs — where all people have enough to eat, a decent home and pro-

tection from disease," Carter said.

"It can help us build a nation and a world where all people are free to seek the truth and to add to human understanding so that all of us may live our lives in peace."

"Tonight I ask you to join me in building that new foundation — better foundation — for our country and our world," he said.

U.S. leader promises to press for peace, SALT, security

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — President Carter staked out an activist role in foreign affairs for the United States in his State of the Union speech Tuesday night. He promised an attempt to cap the nuclear arms race and expand cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Fatigued Sen. Talmadge enters hospital for cure

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — Sen. Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.), facing a Senate inquiry on charges that he improperly used campaign funds, has apparently been admitted to Bethesda Naval Hospital for treatment of fatigue.

The 22-year veteran of the Senate and a member of the Watergate investigating com-

mittee entered the Maryland Hospital Monday night on the advice of his physician, according to News Secretary Gordon Roberts.

The Senate Ethics Committee is investigating allegations that Talmadge ordered the diversion of \$39,000 in campaign contributions and expense funds into a secret Washington bank account.

He urged support for his increased defense budget and said a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union will not be signed unless it advances American safety.

Carter presented these legislative proposals:

—A ceiling on hospital price increases, which he called a clear test of Congressional com-

mitment to fight inflation.

—A measure preparing for national health insurance, to be phased in during the 1980s.

—Limited public financing of Congressional election campaigns.

Deregulation of the trucking and rail industries.

—Reorganization programs in education, economic development and the management of natural resources.



PONDERS: President Carter works at his desk in the Oval Office in the White House. In his State of the Union address to Congress Tuesday night he called for a "new foundation" for his program of legislation.

\$6 million for cleaning up**Canada bills Soviets on satellite**

OTTAWA, Jan. 24 (AP) — The Federal government has filed a \$6 million claim with the Soviet Union for expenses in cleaning up radioactive debris from a Russian satellite that crashed in northern Canada a year ago.

The claim, announced Tues-

day by External Affairs Minister Don Macdonald, covers only part of the total cost of the satellite cleanup by several Canadian government departments and its Atomic Energy Control Board.

The costs are understood to include such items as additional travel, overtime or rental of equipment but not regular salaries or use of equipment by government.

A nuclear-powered Cosmos satellite fell to earth in Canada's Northwest Territories in January, 1978.

The Defense Department led the search, aided by other departments and the United States. The Atomic Energy Control Board took over the operation in mid-year.

Snail darter evades extinction as Tennessee dam scratched

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — The government's Endangered Species Committee has unanimously blocked completion of the Tellico Dam in Tennessee because further construction might doom the snail darter, an eight-centimeter-long fish.

The decision hinged on two primary factors: whether a rea-

sonable alternative to the project existed, and whether the project's economic benefits outweigh the benefits of the alternative.

The dam project has become the focus of a sharp debate between conservationists and those who believe environmental protection laws have unnecessarily restricted development and hurt the economy.

Charles Schultze, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, argued that the benefits to be gained by closing the gates of the dam were less than the cost of completing the project.

A staff committee report estimated the Tellico Reservoir Project would cost \$7.22 million annually to complete and operate, compared with \$6.5 million in benefits.

Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker of Tennessee criticized the decision, saying in a statement, "If that's all the good the committee process can do, to put us right back where we started from, we might as well save the time and expense. I will introduce legislation to abolish the committee and exempt the Tellico Dam from the provisions of the Endangered Species Act."

Recent reports by workers in the field have questioned the value of such aid, he said.

assistance program that provides outright donations to needy countries through voluntary organizations.

On the decision, Simon said: "The decision to provide food aid to hungry nations has been a failure in many cases in greater food dependency, staggering debt burdens, austerity programs and an increasing loss of Third World autonomy over their own economies."

In a paper presented to a subcommittee of the Presidential Commission on World Hunger, Simon argued that few programs "have effectively reached into the village" in poor countries, and urged independent examinations of development and food aid programs.

Even the poorest nation "has within it the productive potential to become food self-reliant" by growing enough crops, for consumption or trade, to provide nutritionally adequate diets for all its people, he said.

Simon also urged the commission to recommend a full independent review of American Food for Peace operations, particularly the portion of the

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Battles surround key supply port for Phnom Penh

BANGKOK, Jan. 24 (AP) — Fighting was reported Wednesday in several areas around the seaport of Kompong Som and along sections of Highway Four, the key artery which links the port to the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh.

Separate sources said there were also indications of small-scale attacks near Phnom Penh's airport.

Thai military sources pointed an oil refinery and a radar site near Kompong Som as the major contested areas, with Vietnamese troops holding the sites against attacks by troops loyal to the previous regime.

The sources said the Vietnamese were being forced to resupply their troops in the seaport area by air since Highway Four was unsafe.

6 refugees detained in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, Jan. 24 (AP) — Six Vietnamese refugees, who arrived here aboard the refugee boat Huey Fong, have been detained by police for questioning, a Hong Kong government spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman refused to give other details. It is believed that they were being questioned to determine whether the 2,290-ton Taiwanese freighter was involved in smuggling refugees to Hong Kong.

The six were among the 3,318 Vietnamese refugees on the Huey Fong, which was stranded off Hong Kong in international waters for four weeks. The ship was denied permission to enter Hong Kong on Dec. 23 because its first official port of call was Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

Captain Shu Wen-shin defied a government order to proceed to Taiwan and sailed the ship into Hong Kong waters last Friday.



With 2 strong posts

Charan Singh rejoins Desai fold

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24 (AP)

The long-simmering crisis in Prime Minister Morarji Desai's ruling Janata Party appeared at an end Wednesday when dissident leader Charan Singh was brought back into Desai's cabinet as deputy prime minister and minister of finance.

A Vietnamese force of about 100,000 is spread throughout the country and experiencing logistic problems after nearly five weeks of fighting. The Vietnamese have kept largely to the major roads and urban centers.

Some refugees say the Vietnamese are treating the ordinary Cambodian villagers well but that some rice is being taken away.

The Cambodian government in Phnom Penh lacks trained manpower both for fighting and for governing and there are mixed reports from refugees about its reception.

The principal emotion expressed is one of relief that the brutal regime of Pol Pot has been swept aside and anxiety over a take-over by the traditional enemy, Vietnam.

Not everyone in the Janata Party is happy about the reshuffle formula. Ram, who previously had been next to Desai in cabinet rank, now follows Singh as deputy prime minister, 52.

Critics of Singh in the party were angered because his elevation appears to show that "dissent pays," the "Statesman" newspaper reported.

Singh went on the floor of parliament last month to claim that the prime minister had

N. Korea accepts Park bid for unification talks

TOKYO, Jan. 24 (UPI) —

North Korea welcomed South Korea's proposal to hold reunification talks and called for a par-Korean congress to discuss differences, the North Korea Central News Agency reported Wednesday.

"We proposed that a pan-national congress composed of

representatives of political parties and social organizations of the north and the south be convened," the North Koreans said.

It said such a congress should discuss all issues involving the two Koreas, and could have a preliminary meeting in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang in June to be followed by a full session September in either Seoul or Pyongyang.

The statement was a response to an offer made last week by South Korean President Park Chung-hee, who said he was willing to meet with North Korean officials anywhere, any time and at any level.

The statement specified South Korean representatives should include members of opposition parties as well as Park's ruling Democratic Republican Party, "patriotic figures of various circles in South Korea and representatives of organizations of compatriots and individual persons abroad."

U.S. wraps up preparations for Teng visit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — Planning for Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping's historic visit to the United States, less than a week off, is almost complete.

Current plans call for Teng to sample American-style capitalism with visits tentatively scheduled to an automobile assembly plant, an aircraft manufacturing plant, and port facilities.

State Department aides said Tuesday they were in the final hours of preparing the itinerary for Teng's eight-day visit.

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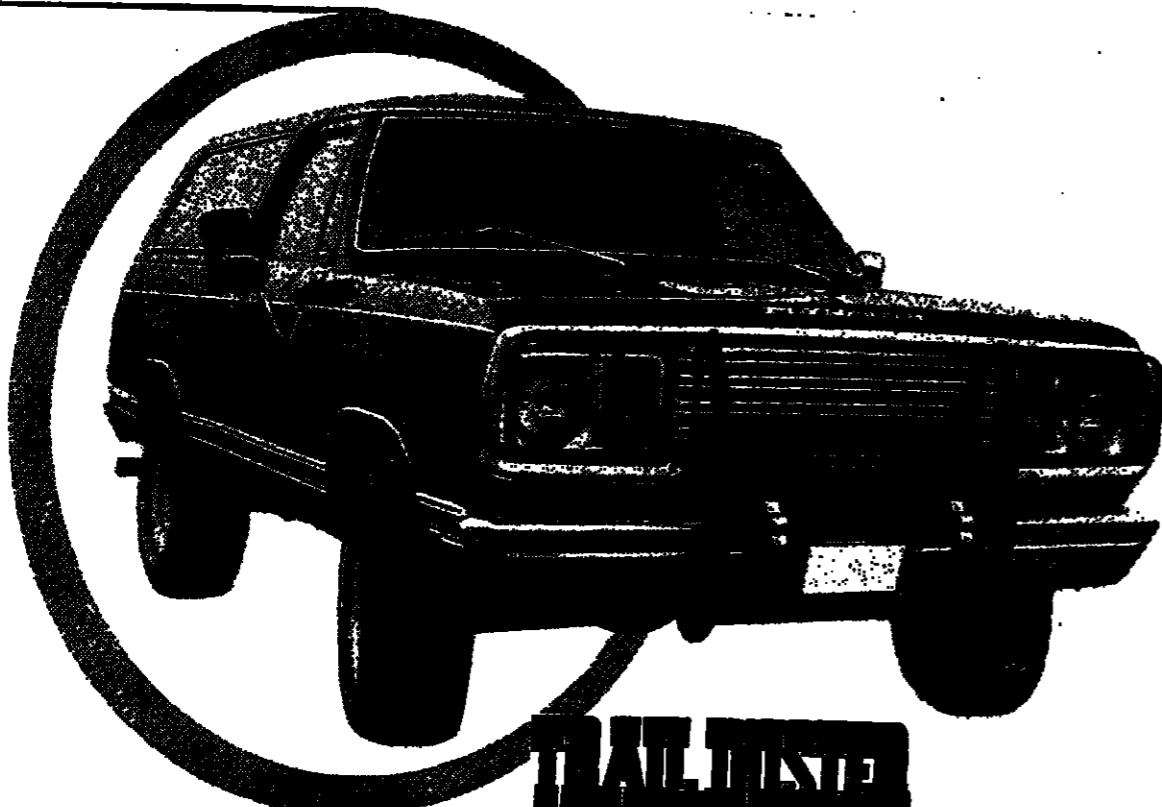
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U.S. PRIORITIES

President Carter's State of the Union address may indeed have reflected the mood of the American people on several key domestic issues — such as government belt-tightening, the deregulation of certain industries and the battle against inflation. But the president missed the boat on a number of crucial foreign policy issues, by failing to present Congress and the people with a realistic picture of the world as it exists today. In reading Mr. Carter's address one is left with the impression that the administration deliberately sidestepped certain vital questions, perhaps because easy answers are simply not available and because the president wished to put his best foot forward as the curtain begins to rise on the 1980 presidential election campaign.

Mr. Carter had nothing to say about Iran's political crisis—a development many analysts regard as the most significant geopolitical "event" in recent memory. Instead of facing the Iranian problem head-on, the president simply included Iran in a list of countries (Nicaragua, Cyprus, Namibia, Rhodesia) where the U.S. seeks "peaceful solutions to dangerous conflicts." Are we to assume from this that President Carter considers the disorders in Nicaragua to be as strategically important as the crisis in Iran?

On the question of a Middle East peace, the president limited himself to four brief sentences in his thirty-minute address. He repeated the traditional U.S. refrain about "our firm commitment to Israel's survival and security." He followed up with another truism: that America must retain the trust and confidence of both sides in the dispute. And then he said he was "determined to use the full beneficial influence of our nation" to ensure that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is eventually signed. The president did not explain what he meant by "full beneficial influence." Some optimistic Arab analysts may conclude Mr. Carter plans to apply pressure on Israel to secure a treaty that includes linkage on the Palestinian question. Some American political experts believe the president plans to resurrect the Camp David summit format to prod Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat into signing the proposed treaty. But it is important to keep in mind that Mr. Carter was intentionally vague on the subject — an indication that he does not yet know what step to take to keep the peace process alive. It is also worth noting that the president never once mentioned the Palestinian people.

Another serious and presumably deliberate omission in the State of the Union address was the all-important question of energy — particularly its global dimensions. From a reading of the speech, an innocent observer would necessarily conclude that international energy issues are not a major concern of the Carter administration. The president made only one fleeting reference to the need to conserve energy, and that appeared buried in a list of possible anti-inflation actions. Mr. Carter devoted far more time in his address to such secondary issues as campaign financing and the women's equal rights amendment.

One can only conclude from Mr. Carter's speech that he still has not grasped the sea-changes that have taken place in the international community since the Cold War. Americans still do not understand that developments throughout the world have a direct impact on the future of the United States. President Carter needs to formulate an American global strategy to cope with international changes. It is not enough to come forth with confused and often contradictory rhetoric about how "no superpower will dominate the world" and at the same time seek comfort in shophorn Cold War formulas that evoke the horrors of nuclear war. If the Americans lose the ongoing struggle with the Soviet Union, it will not be because of a nuclear confrontation. The battle underway is a gradual, low-level struggle for influence and control of strategically vital areas in the Third World. The thing President Carter must realize is that the Soviets have already crafted their strategy. They know what they are doing, and the Americans do not.

The PLO at 15

By George Krimsky

BERUIT—

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) enters its 15th year with added strength and an increasing belief that it has to act even tougher if the commando leadership is to ever preside over an independent state of Palestine.

A militant position adopted at the PLO's just concluded parliamentary session in Damascus, encouraged by a step-up in Israeli strikes, has all but foreclosed on any moderate attempt to reach a political solution with Israel. The military option is being stressed now.

In the most ominous signal yet that the Israeli-Palestinian battle is about to surge, PLO leaders are making no secret they plan a major revenge operation for the assassination in Beirut Monday of Yasser Arafat's protege, Ali Hassan Salameh. They have blamed Israeli

agents for the car-bomb murder and claim this is the first salvo in a new Israeli campaign to hit directly at PLO leaders, a policy shelved more than four years ago after a gun-and-bomb terror war between Palestinian and Israeli agents throughout the Middle East and Europe.

"The coming days will show that we have prepared to retaliate for such criminal operations," Arafat's political adviser, Hani al-Hassan, told reporters in Damascus Tuesday.

Fresh artillery and rocket exchanges across the Lebanese-Israeli border in recent weeks, and a series of punishing raids from both sides, have fueled the mutual hatred.

While most informed observers are convinced the commandos will never be able to wrest a homeland from Israel by force, even with the help of Arab armies, the PLO leadership sees strategic benefits in the military option.—(AP)

"ON THE WAY HOME, WE CAN READ SOME OF THIS STUFF WE'VE BEEN VOTING ON"



Thailand in the storm

By Amporn Tantuvanich

BANGKOK —

A potentially hostile force of 100,000 Vietnamese gains supremacy in neighboring Cambodia. There is talk by outsiders of Thailand as a "froncine state" and "the next domino." An unidentified Soviet-built MiG drops bombs inside Thailand.

Along the Thai-Cambodian border, however, there are few signs of substantial reinforcements. Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomvavan flies off to Japan and the governor of perhaps the most sensitive border province comes to Bangkok for a round of golf. He tells reporters that there is "nothing to worry about."

But this is not a naive government in Bangkok, burying its head like the proverbial ostrich.

Thailand is doing what it does best — sending signals in all directions, playing one side against the other, avoiding saber-rattling, keeping a smiling face to all around. Kriangsak's government also intends to avoid any internal anxieties, and resulting economic problems, such as those that swept Thailand following the 1975 Communist victories in Indochina and the collapse of Thailand's American military umbrella.

Thailand announced a neutral stand in the Cambodian conflict immediately after Vietnamese-led Cambodian forces captured Phnom Penh Jan. 7.

Three days later, two Thai helicopters flew into Cambodia to swoop up Cambodian Vice Deputy Premier Ieng Sary and his party. The evacuation of this key figure of the toppled government of Premier Pol Pot — one that had until recently

been hostile to Bangkok — drew criticism that Thailand had gone out of its way to assist the Peking-supported Pol Pot leadership.

Thai Foreign Minister Upadit Pachariyangkul said the evacuation was based on a "universal principle" and "humanitarianism."

Thailand then informed Chinese diplomats here that Bangkok still honored the diplomatic accord between Cambodia and Thailand but would have no alternative but to recognize the new Hanoi-backed regime in Phnom Penh should it become the legitimate government.

Senior sources in the foreign ministry said Kriangsak later relayed a message to Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong that Thailand did not wish to interfere in the war in Cambodia but that Vietnamese troops should steer clear of the Thai frontier if "they don't want to be seen by outsiders."

Dong sent a message, later made public, promising Hanoi would respect Thailand's frontier.

Some Western analysts here say, however, that the relatively quiet frontier is a "calculated risk" from a military point of view.

"There's not much between the border and Bangkok to stop any concerted tank thrust," one analyst said.

Political observers noted that Kriangsak's trip to neighboring Laos three days before the Vietnamese forces took Phnom Penh was a clear indication that Bangkok did not wish to lose a steadily built up defense with the pro-Moscow, Hanoi-dominated country.

Despite repeated statements from Bangkok that Thailand wants to see the immediate end

of the conflict in Cambodia, officials privately have said that a drawn out conflict would only be to Thailand's advantage, and that a clear victory by either side could spell trouble.

"To put it matter-of-factly, the fighting should go on until there is only one Cambodia left — and that will probably be Sihanouk," a foreign ministry official said, referring to Cambodia's one-time leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who is now in New York.

As a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Thailand joined the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia in condemning the Vietnamese invasion.

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Despite repeated statements from Bangkok that Thailand wants to see the immediate end

saudi press review

Arms and Iran

By William Branigin

TEHRAN —

Less than a year ago, the Shah of Iran was pressing ahead with massive arms purchases aimed at turning Iran into a regional military superpower.

Today that dream is shattered. Arms procurement is paralyzed and Western weapons orders worth about \$20 billion face either cancellation or indefinite postponement, according to military analysts.

With the Iranian economy on the ropes and the country's new prime minister calling for sharp military spending cuts, outright cancellation of some major weapons orders and projects seems likely, the sources say. Even so, they add, Iran could be obliged to pay heavy penalties under contract cancellation clauses.

Since the early 1970s, Iran has bought about \$22 billion worth of weapons from the United States alone, most of it since 1974 after oil income quadrupled. Of this, about \$12 billion worth has yet to be delivered, ranging from missiles to aircraft.

On top of these orders, Iran had planned at least \$9 billion in new arms purchases over the next three years, diplomatic sources said.

Much of this is now in doubt, if not already sacrificed to the upheavals that have wracked the country for the past year.

The new prime minister, Shapour Bakhtiar, has promised to curb military spending, which has drained manpower and resources from development projects, fueled inflation and brought to Iran thousands of American defense contract personnel.

Bakhtiar says Iran no longer can afford the Shah's ambitious role of being the policeman of the Gulf. He has said the Iranian armed forces should concentrate on defending the country's borders rather than dominating the area.

Bakhtiar has asked the new finance minister to prepare a list of "what we can afford to buy and what we have to cancel."

Military analysts say that

Arms and Iran

By William Branigin

TEHRAN —

even if Bakhtiar's government cuts deeply, it cannot reduce weapons spending too heavily because it must try to accommodate the hard-line armed forces. If the Bakhtiar administration succumbs to continued disturbances or a possible military takeover, the sources said, any new regime would probably be forced to reduce sharply new purchases and projects because of the economic scramble.

Inside the military establishment and the arms purchasing organizations there is no decision-making anymore," one attache said. "They're so confused they can't decide what should be their priority in cutting back. They're just waiting and waiting, and time is slipping away."

Military analysts said that the new Iranian government might cancel a major purchase of 160 American F-16 fighter planes due for delivery in the early 1980s, even though Iran already has made substantial advance payments on the \$3.2 billion deal.

The sources said it was unlikely now that Iran could absorb such a major purchase.

Officials stressed that no contracts for U.S. aircraft deliveries have yet been canceled, although the Iranian War Ministry has postponed indefinitely action on the Shah's arms list presented to the Carter administration last month.

An ordinance complex being built by British firm at Isfahan to make spare parts for Chieftain tanks also has been canceled, along with projects in Shiraz to make American Tow antitank and Maverick air-to-ground missiles and to produce the British surface-to-air Rapier missile.

In addition, a naval base under construction by a U.S. contractor at Chah Bahar on the Gulf of Oman is being drastically scaled down from its original \$2 billion cost, military sources said.

Chah Bahar also was to be the home port of sophisticated Spruance-class destroyers worth \$1.5 billion that Iran has ordered from the United States.

All major items on that list are being postponed except F-14s, which have been canceled, one said. Iran already has received 80 F-14s.

The planes are armed with sophisticated Phoenix missiles and the only aircraft in Iranian possession capable of countering the Soviet MiG-25.

Among the postponed items on the Shah's list are several hundred aircraft intended to upgrade and strengthen Iran's fighting and transport capabilities.

According to the sources, the Shah also expressed interest in some low warplanes still on the drawing board, and the Pentagon had encouraged him. — (WP)

Bhutto waits for the court

By Barry Blasberg

RAWALPINDI —

Former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto is like a time bomb for Pakistan as he broods in a three-room cell, waiting for the supreme court's decision on his death sentence.

The court is expected to decide in the next few weeks whether to uphold Bhutto's death sentence, commute it, send the case back to a lower court or acquit him.

Bhutto was convicted last spring of ordering his paramilitary security force to kill a political opponent in 1974. The gunman killed the man's aged father.

"More than my life is at stake, make no mistake about it," Bhutto wrote in the 80,000-word defense he submitted to the supreme court. "The future of Pakistan is at stake."

He remains in Rawalpindi jail, in sight of the official residence where he lived until Gen. Zia ul-Haq ousted him.

come at a time of increasing Israeli aggression and unrestrained arrogance."

This aggression will not be controlled until the Palestinians

succeed in disproving the Israeli theory of security and in linking their ranks against the Israeli enemy by putting aside their differences in the interest

of the

Sheikh Kan'an and the king

By John Close

JEDDAH—Time has faded the photograph and turned the Cadillac, barely in the picture, into a collector's item. In impeccable suit the prince and the courtier smile the smile of carefree tourists. Perhaps it is their successful anonymity, just three foreigners outside a Howard Johnson's Lodge somewhere on an American highway, that makes Kan'an Al Khatib remember the day with such fondness.

It was 1962. Crown Prince Faisal was in the United States, travelling with his two advisors on his way to see President Kennedy. Dr. Rashad Pharaon took the picture for him and Sheikh Kan'an—teacher, oil consultant, poet and raconteur—has kept it ever since.

Sheikh Kan'an first visited Saudi Arabia as an emissary of the American University of Beirut, returned as a consultant at various times for Aristotle Onassis and H. L. Hunt, and stayed as King Faisal's poet laureate. "He was my brother, friend, father and king," the Sheikh says of the late King.

Kan'an was born in Hama, Syria, a site famous for its huge waterwheels which low and moan like cattle as they irrigate the fields. As a lawyer, his father was able to send his eldest son to Istanbul, capital of the Ottoman Empire, to study. He was the first boy to leave the village. Kan'an went to the American University of Beirut (AUB) a few years later as a student and later professor of Arabic and Arabic literature at the International College.

He still moves like college athlete. "I wish every Arab youth would be interested in sports and athletics like me. There is a proverb: 'If you take care of yourself while young, old age will take care of itself,'" Sheikh Kan'an says. "Look at me. I am 69. Can you believe it?" He won 25 medals while at AUB and left behind two records in swimming and track.

He specialized in masterworks of the Abbasid period and, like the Arab scholars of that time (who rediscovered Greek learning under Caliph Ma'moun of Bagdad), and the Persian civil servants who brought the science of astrology to the Caliph's court, he brought with him a teacher or science in biology from AUB and a masters from Cairo University when he joined Faisal's diwan.

In 1937, Kan'an made his first trip to Saudi Arabia—by ship from Beirut to Tripoli, train to Alexandria, Cairo and Suez and then, as the only passenger, by ship to Jeddah with a cot as his sole companion in the dining room.

He was chosen by AUB President Bayard Dodge as the university's first envoy to Saudi Arabia, seeking permission to recruit students. Sheikh Kan'an was already a friend of Finance Minister Sheikh Abdallah Suleiman and was the guardian of Sheikh Abdulla's two sons, who had been sent to Beirut for their education. "I have no memory of Jeddah. There was no Jeddah as we know it now—I remember mud and coral buildings like old wedding cakes."

He brought a portfolio of the AUB campus and classrooms for Prince Faisal, Viceroy of the Hejaz, with instructions to display prominently the examples of X-ray photography. As he carefully explained the X-ray principle to the Viceroy at their first meeting he noticed a tiny smile on the prince's face.

"It was typical of him. He would never laugh out loud but he had always a sense of humor." Dr. Rashad Pharaon was called over and told to show Kan'an around the new hospital with particular emphasis on the new X-ray machine. "It was at least four times larger than the one at AUB."

Armed with a letter from Prince Faisal, Sheikh Kan'an went to Mecca to see Grand Mufti Abdallah bin Blai'ed about the possibility of Saudi students studying at AUB.

The Mufti asked me, "Are you a graduate of this place? Beirut?" I said, "Yes, I am." He said, "I will write to the king." Sheikh Kan'an returned to Beirut with 67 students from Saudi Arabia.

Ten years later, Kan'an returned to the Arabian Peninsula as the agent for Superior Oil of Los Angeles and Central Mining of London. His task to negotiate oil concessions for the two companies—Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Dubai—was to be a long and ultimately unsuccessful process. He was the only one of the eight-member delegation to me out alive after three plane crashes, and it was only

the beginning of the frustrations.

Legal questions of offshore rights and a myriad other complex matters eventually convinced the oil firms to withdraw from the deal in 1949. They signed an amicable agreement with Sheikh Kan'an to settle his 2.5 percent commission and closed their relationship, but not before he became the first man to light an electric light bulb in Abu Dhabi.

The oil companies sent a generator, a fan and a light bulb to the guest house on the sea where Kan'an was staying. "I had a bodyguard of six very tough looking men, covered with daggers and rifles. I told them something special was to happen. I went into the next room and turned on the generator which came on with a great noise—TAK TAK TAK—the bulb slowly came to life and they dropped their rifles and ran."

In January of 1954, Aristotle Onassis sailed into Jeddah from Cairo aboard the "Time Onassis." He came to negotiate what later became known as the Jeddah Agreement by which the Onassis tanker fleet would transport Saudi oil under the flag of the Saudi Arabian Maritime Company.

Prince Faisal told Ali Alireza that nothing would happen unless Kan'an was there. Alireza hunted all over Jeddah for me and when I came into the meeting Onassis said, "So, who is this Kan'an Al Khatib?" After the whole thing was over I said, "Could I add just one word to this agreement—alleged, for it is an alleged agreement." It was a prophetic remark.

Kan'an translated the entire 102 articles of the contract that night. "True to my word it was already by 8:30 a.m., and my butler was very shocked to find me at my desk so early."

Soon after, Kan'an got married and passed through Monte Carlo on his honeymoon.

He met with Onassis at the Casino and was hired to help salvage the deal, but by that time it was too late.

Sheikh Kan'an's last job in the oil business was as the agent for H.L. Hunt, who sought the Kuwaiti concession for the Neutral Zone. When it was awarded to the Japanese, Kan'an joined King Faisal's court and remained with him until the King's death.

He wrote book reviews for the King ("So many I can't count them"), recited and composed poetry and accompanied him on 22 state visits.

On one such visit to Washington in 1971, Kan'an remembers a U.S. Secret Service agent insisting that the curtains in King Faisal's room be drawn as a precaution.

When Kan'an relayed the request, King Faisal was puzzled.

"Nevertheless, we are their guests and must do as they ask," Kan'an quotes him as saying. Later, Sheikh Kan'an explained to the agent that the king was unused to such security measures since, under the Sharia law of the kingdom, there is very little crime.

"Well, I wish the king would come rule this country for six months," was the man's response to Kan'an's explanation.

The news of the American landing on the moon caused great excitement in King Faisal's court. Kan'an remembers one evening on the Grand Verandah at the palace in Taif when the moon was half full. As they looked up at it and thought of men walking on its surface, King Faisal wondered if the dark section was only visible from Earth, whether from the astronauts' vantage point it appeared completely lit. He took Kan'an over to a section of the garden where a low wall stood in front of a lamp. He told Kan'an to crouch down so the wall cut off half the light, then to stand and observe that the whole bulb was visible. When Kan'an told him that the shadow of the Earth sent half the moon into darkness an ominous silence fell on the court.

He was later warned by all his colleagues against contradicting the king, but the next day King Faisal said,

"I have done some research and discovered that you are right. Thank you for correcting me in the privacy of my home."

Once, when Kan'an was taking his leave of two of King Faisal's sons in London to return to Saudi Arabia, he asked if he could carry any message to their father. Prince Abdullah, the king's eldest son, immediately dictated the letter (in Kan'an's presence) to his brother Prince Khalid, now governor of the Asir.

Kan'an returned to Jeddah and waited until after the noon prayer and their lunch before presenting the letter to



Sheikh Kan'an Al Khatib

King Faisal. "It is our tradition," he remembers saying, "never to give news whether good or bad before eating but, God be praised, this is good news."

The king took the letter. He turned it over slowly in his hands. He said quietly, "This letter is sealed. How do

you know it is good news?"

It wasn't until Kan'an had stumbled through a hurried explanation that he noticed the familiar, tiny smile. "Can you imagine such an awkward

position?" One of Sheikh Kan'an's memories of the many trips abroad with King Faisal is of waking in the airplane somewhere between San Francisco

and Tokyo early on a grey morning. "You could just see him in the aisle, alone, performing his prayer."

Sheikh Kan'an now lives in the Kandara Palace Hotel and maintains a villa in Jeddah in case any of his two sons and three daughters decides to settle in the Kingdom.

"I've lived a long and broad life, really," he reflects.

KIOSK

A potpourri of events and activities from around the Kingdom.

JEDDAH

Saturday, Jan. 27:

Hejaz Choral Society meeting. At the PCS, Room 5, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 28 — Monday, Jan. 29:

SET holds rehearsals for "The Crucible," an Author Miller drama, at the Jeddah Prep School, 7:30 p.m. (NOTE: SET apologizes to all those who turned up for auditions of "The Crucible" on Jan. 16. Owing to the weather, the hall was under water.)

Wednesday, Jan. 31:

A piano recital by Antony Peebles, presented by the Jeddah Concert Committee. Program will feature works by Chopin and Brahms. At the British Ambassador's residence, 8:30 p.m.

Rehearsals for "HMS Pinafore," by the Jeddah Light Opera Society. At the British Embassy club room, 8 p.m.—10 p.m.

RIYADH

Thursday, Jan. 25 — Friday, June 1:

Belgian cymbalist and violinist Miklos Hosszu appears nightly during dinner hours at the Oasis Restaurant in the Intercontinental Hotel. Gypsy music and "tunes from the Blue Danube."

Mondays, Jan. 29:

A lecture on photography by Joe Asmar, presented by the Riyadh Art Society League. At the U.S. Information Service building, 8 p.m. Public welcome.

Friday, Jan. 26:

Riyadh International Soccer League. Laing-Wimpey Alreza vs. PAE at the Philip Holzmann compound 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25:

Last day of the Dhahran Ouring Group's Pakistan Folklore Festival. Display located at the Arameco auditorium adjacent to the snack bar. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission free.

Sunday, Jan. 28:

Dr. Edwin McKee, a world authority on sand dunes, will speak on his studies. Sponsored by the Society of Petroleum Engineers. At the Oil Exhibit Theater, Dhahran, 7:30 p.m. Admission free.

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A visit to 'la source' of France's Perrier

By Dorothy Gilliam

VERGEZE, France — The summer-green, bowling-pin shaped bottles come labelled in several languages now, including Arabic and English. But it was only a couple of years ago in many parts of the world that the tingly bubbles of Perrier bounced on the tongues of the few bon vivants wealthy enough to pay \$1 a bottle for what is, after all, water.

Sales have mushroomed, even in corners of the world like the Middle East where bottled waters from the Mediterranean countries are commonplace. Sales in the United States rose by 25 million bottles a year to 106 million in 1978. Source Perrier hopes to triple sales in America this year.

No competitor has Perrier's snob appeal — not yet, anyway. And Perrier is alone in the United States in challenging the giant soft drink industry (Pepsi, Coca-Cola et al) with a commercial blitz on television.

The TV ads feature actor Orson Welles proclaiming in his gravelly voice the "miracle" of Perrier. Welles' gushes, in precise actor's diction, rival the chorus of gurgles and gurgles in the background: "In the south of France, near the village of Vergeze, stand gates which guard a single spring...blessed with waters of unusual purity and clarity..."

So to see what all the furor was, we came to the source in this tiny township to view "the single spring" where the Perrier folks say the water "has been bubbling up from an underground volcanic spring at the rate of 21,000 gallons per hour for nearly 2,000 years."

The one-hour flight from Paris to Montpellier, the nearest airfield, was taken with Fred Zimmer, the enthusiastic board chairman of Perrier's U.S. subsidiary, Great Waters of France Inc. At 20,000 feet, the Dutchman admitted that Perrier's statement that the water "is bottled directly from nature" is not quite literally the case.

The water does indeed bubble up from deep below the ground surface, but in order to control the consistency of the carbon dioxide, the gas and water are separated, brought up from the earth in different pipes at separate points, then the gasses are reinjected in the bottling plant.

"Fifteen, 20 years ago, sometimes there was not enough gas, sometimes too much. We take part of the gas from one place, separate water from the gas and put them back together in the same bottle."

"It is all naturally carbonated water, but you have to be very careful with the spring," Zimmer explained.

Greeting the visitor after a 35-kilometer drive from Montpellier to Vergeze was the debris of construction. Puffs of dust blanketed the low white administration buildings and laboratories. Workers labored around the clock to meet the planned opening date of the new factory. After the opening, Perrier will employ 2,000 people in Vergeze.

The visitor was not taken directly to the spring, but to the plant to see the bottling of the water. The sand from their own mines goes in one side of the plant to make bottles that bake at 1,600 degrees Fahrenheit and fly down red hot from furnaces. The water is piped into bottles, capped, labeled and emerges on the plant's other end.

But where is the spring, rising "through porous limestone and cracked marl?"

The spring must await a visit to the laboratory where, with an array of sophisticated equipment, George Perrus, quality and product control supervisor, oversees a staff that twice daily performs chemical analysis on the spring and bottled water.

"We have never found any bacteria, or any variation or any pesticides," he said. "One old man who had worked here many years had only one regret at retirement: He had never found any bacteria."

Why is the gas taken out and put back in the water? "If we transport water and gas together in the same pipe, it will not work. We've been doing it this way for 36 or 37 years."

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BOOKSHELF

A bomb-happy book about Canada's oil sands

By Jonathan Sharp

TORONTO — A gritty, tar-like substance once used by Canadian Indians to repair holes in their canoes may be destined for a major role in plugging gaps in the world's energy resources.

The substance is sand-coated, heavy, highly viscous oil. Deposits exist in Canada's Alberta Province in such vast quantities that the author of a new book claims they represent the world's biggest single source of recoverable crude oil.

"Canadians are sitting on an energy asset second to none

Made 'chic' in Hong Kong

By Edith M. Lederer

HONG KONG — The odds are good that the shirts on many people's backs were made in Hong Kong — whether it's a \$4.98 tank top or a \$150 Calvin Klein silk.

Since 1973, Hong Kong has retained the title of the world's largest clothing exporter. The United States is far and away its biggest market.

In the late 1950s and 1960s, the "Made in Hong Kong" label became synonymous with mass-produced cheap clothes. Not anymore.

There are still plenty of inexpensive trousers, shirts, blouses and sweaters — the big four export items — but now there are plenty of expensive ones, too.

In recent years, the list of famous designers manufacturing in Hong Kong has grown to the point where it now reads like the "Who's Who" of fashion: Calvin Klein, Pierre Cardin, Fiorucci, Givenchy, Yves St. Laurent, Christian Dior and Gloria Vanderbilt.

This week's 12th annual ready-to-wear festival has attracted more than 4,300 buyers from 60 countries, including such American paceset-

ters as Saks Fifth Avenue, I. Magnin and Marshall Field.

"I haven't been here for 10 years and in 10 years time, Hong Kong has matured considerably as an apparel center," said Norman V. Wechsler, chairman of I. Magnin and Co. of San Francisco. "I think the quality levels here have come up remarkably."

Arje Maas, managing director of the Hema B.V. chain in Amsterdam, said: "Hong Kong is by far the best in the Far East of the cheaper producing countries ... They have made tremendous improvements in terms of quality and style."

Anne Bruh, fashion coordinator for London's Frank Usher specialty fashion house, said she comes to Hong Kong "because we just feel it's impossible to get high quality production in Europe and elsewhere and here we find people so willing and able."

Marcia Israel, head of Judy's Inc., a California-based chain of boutiques, said: "Vis-a-vis the United States, France and London, there is no question Hong Kong is eating away at everybody's market." — (AP)

world's supply of readily-available oil dwindling and its price going up, the oil sands inevitably will become a more attractive proposition.

Added weight is given to his point by the latest round of price increases decreed by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the disruption of oil exports from Iran.

Everything about the oil sands is staggering in scale — including the problems posed in exploiting them.

The biggest of the three main deposits along the Athabasca River several hundred kilometers north of Edmonton, covers about 32,000 square kms.

The others are around Peace River, northwest of Edmonton, and Cold Lake, to the northeast of the city.

According to official figures cited by Fitzgerald, the deposits contain 250 billion barrels of oil.

The oil sands lie in layers at varying depths beneath the swampy wilderness of northern Alberta. The mixture of bog, earth and rock that covers most of the sands is known as "overburden."

The two companies now operating on the sands employ a strip mining technique of clearing away the overburden and then scooping up the sands for transport by conveyor belts for refining.

But most of the oil sands lie at depths that make strip mining impractical, and Fitzgerald's book examines techniques whereby the oil is separated from the sand granules while still underground and then pumped to the surface.

Steam injection and the use of ultra-sonic waves to dislodge the oil are discussed. But his most eye-opening proposal is to use small nuclear bombs to blast underground caverns into which oil, freed from the sands by heat, can flow.

He says one 10-kiloton nuclear detonator would yield about two million barrels of crude, and one billion barrels a year would mean exploding "a bomb a day" or more.

While such a prospect sounds outlandish, Fitzgerald maintains that the cost would compare favorably with the \$50 billion

needed to build enough conventional plants producing the same quantity of oil.

Fitzgerald notes that the idea of using nuclear energy to extract oil from the sands goes as far back as the late 1950s. A scheme called Project OilSand using underground nuclear blasts was formulated with the help of the now-extinct United States Atomic Energy Commission.

But the plan was killed by a new Canadian government that opposed all nuclear tests, even those for peaceful purposes.

The two companies now working the sands are the Great Canadian Oil Sands Ltd. (GCOS), which began crude oil production in 1967, and Syncrude Canada Ltd., which started production last year.

To put the scale of the projects into perspective, Syncrude, which is the larger of the two, took five years to build its plant at a cost estimated at roughly equal to the 1976 gross national product of El Salvador, a country of four million people.

Despite this immense investment, Syncrude's maximum production will be such that it will take 14 similar projects to meet Canada's present oil needs.

According to one published estimate, Syncrude's production costs per barrel, in 1978 dollars, are \$9.50, compared with between 25 cents and \$1.25 in the Middle East and up to \$4.50 in the United States.

The Syncrude project, the product of an alliance between private oil companies and Canadian government interests, probably would not have been built at all but for government concessions allowing it to sell oil at higher prices than other Canadian producers.

The smaller GCOS project, which is owned almost wholly by Sun Oil of Philadelphia, has only recently begun to break even in its operations.

Thus the oil sands are clearly not an instant solution to world oil supply problems, despite Fitzgerald's enthusiasm. As another writer put it, production in the next few years is likely to resemble "the ooze of fat more than the gush of oil." — (R)

Then finally, the Source.

The four officials marched to their Peugeot for a brief ride to the site. An imposing mansion on beautifully landscaped grounds, it was the home of Sir St. John Harmsworth, who purchased the spring in 1903 with the money he made from selling his stock in the family business — the London "Daily Mail." The parade continued up a terraced walk to... a white gazebo. Inside the gazebo was a protruding pipe.

"This is the source," said Louis Fournans, somber in a gray suit. He is in charge of the entire Perrier operation except bottling. There was a pixie-ish expression on his middle-aged face.

"There is no spill. We don't want that because of possible bacteria," he explained.

Fifty yards away — beneath a bird-bath-sized fountain covered by a plexiglas half sphere — fizzed lightly mineralized water with pure natural carbonation. This place, les Bouillens, as the local villagers call the spring, is the only view of gurgling waters.

The plexiglas top had been removed only once in recent years — for the Orson Welles commercial.

Mas Petera, the point where the carbon dioxide is removed, is across the way, surrounded by a white picket fence.

"Now, you have seen all our secrets," said Zimmer, adding, "In Perrier, nothing is added, nothing is dropped, nothing is treated. We can withstand investigation, so if anyone wants to investigate what we do...we're not worried."

When Gustave Leven, chairman of Source Perrier, began looking at the American market a few years ago, most market reps weren't interested. But the 63-year-old Frenchman persisted and two years ago hired marketing whiz Bruce Nevin (who put Levi's on the international map) to head his operation.

Nevin has tried to convince American supermarket shoppers that it is better to reach for Perrier than Pepsi or Coke. His hired salesmen from the soft drink industry, tripled the million-dollar advertising budget, lowered the price of a 23-ounce bottle to an average 69 cents, and emphasized the drink's health properties.

By 1981, the French hope to capture 1 per cent of the American soft drink market.

But the American soft drink people remain unconvinced that the "natural craze" will drive Americans to forsake Pepsi for Perrier. One executive doubted whether "the American palate is trained" to carbonated spring water.

Though Perrier's natural carbonation puts it in a special class, bottle water of all kinds is big business today. Afcionados rank imported still waters like French Evian, Italian Fluggi and Belgian Spa quite high. One blind tasting of sparkling waters conducted by "Savor" magazine placed Perrier third, after a little known Swedish water called Ram'sa and the German Apollinaris.

Healthmania has driven the number of American bottlers up to 700, but 70 per cent of the water sold in the United States is actually tap water that has been treated to remove bacteria, pollutants and traces of harmful metals, according

to Fred Jones, director of the American Bottled Water Association.

Officials here are fond of saying that since since 218 B.C., when Hannibal rested his troops in Vergeze, the water has satisfied the thirsts, treated the ills and lifted the spirits of over 85 generations.

Emperor Napoleon III supposedly ordered that the spring waters be bottled "for the good of France" in 1863, and the French government has kept close watch on the spring ever since. The government makes surprise visits to the plants to assure quality control and keeps mineral waters to very tight standards.

Contrary to American notions that Perrier is a household word in France, a still water called Contrex Ville (also owned by Perrier) is the biggest seller in France. Perrier is second.

When does the source run dry, Zimmer was asked. "The source can't run dry; oh, perhaps with 10 billion or 20 billion bottles we should have some problems. But the well is so big, we don't even know how big." Gallic overstatement? Perhaps. But one thing is certain. The French are still cashing in on the cachet — (WP)

Endurance in Idaho

BILL ERICKSON, the small burly teacher who runs the Yellow Pine school, has been writing letters to the state's major paper, "The Idaho Statesman," outlining plans for a formidable test of endurance.

The test will come Feb. 2 when all eight children from the one-room schoolhouse here strap on their cross-country skis and race both of the children from the schoolhouse in neighboring Big Creek to the top of a 2,460-meter high mountain pass named Profile Gap.

The two tiny communities, cut off from the outside world during the winter, lie on either side of the pass. They are without television or telephones and when they are snowed in, access to supplies is only possible via ski-equipped planes or by snowmobiles which occasionally make the hazardous 120-kilometer trip from the nearest paved highway.

This suggestion won the immediate backing of the local school district and of the hardy band of gold and silver miners, cattle ranchers and outfitters for seal and bear hunters who make their home in the two villages. — (WP)

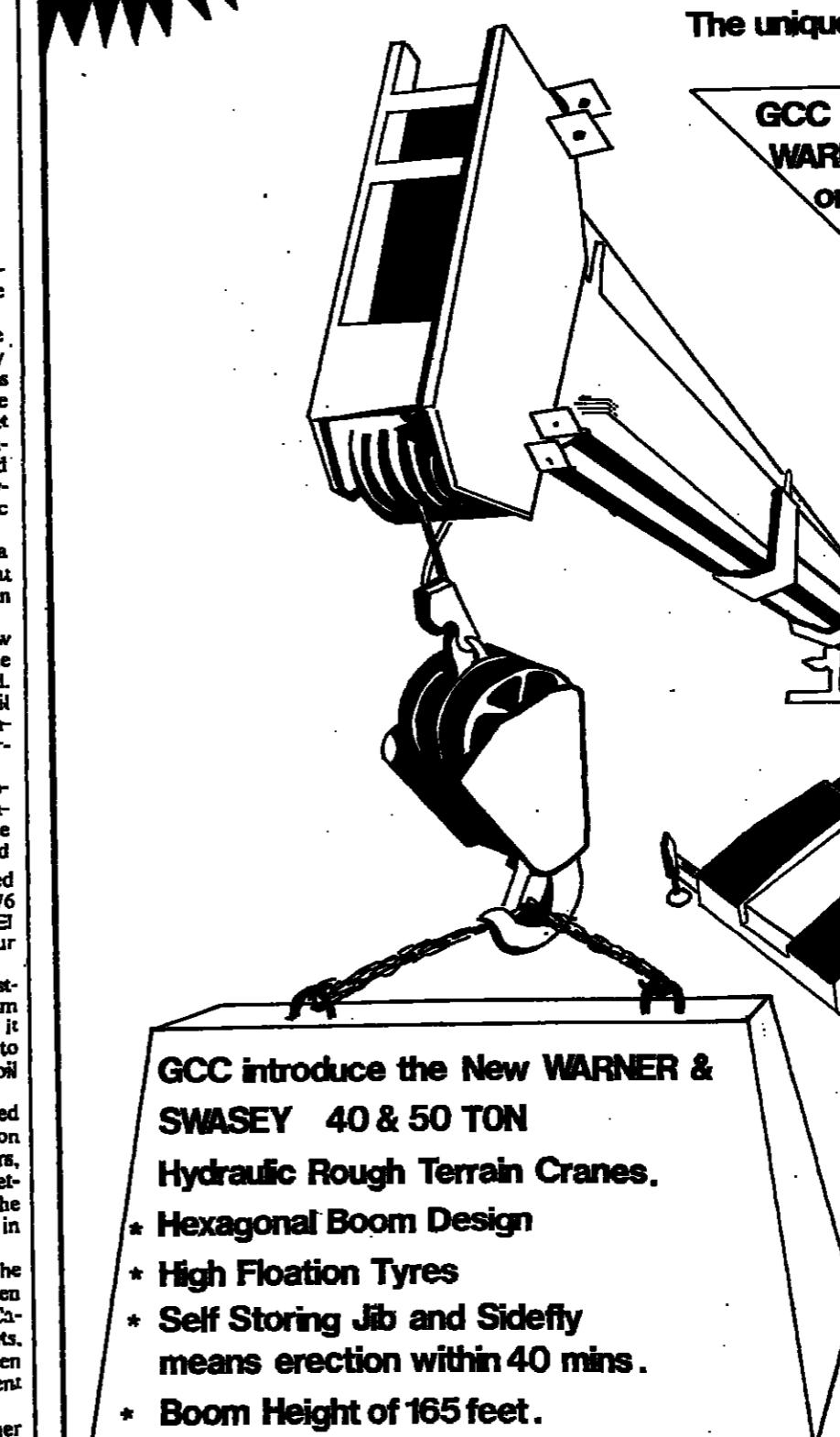
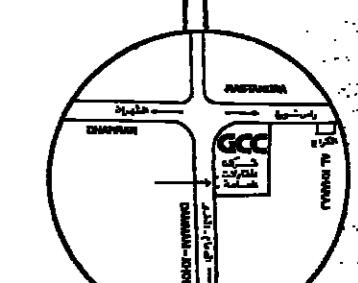
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JOSEPH LITTON

Gavaskar keys fine India 264

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24 (AP) — A century by Indian captain and opening batsman Sunil Gavaskar and his unbeaten 145-run stand for the second wicket with Dilip Vengsarkar took India to a formidable 264 for the loss of one wicket in opening play Wednesday of the fifth Test against the West Indies.

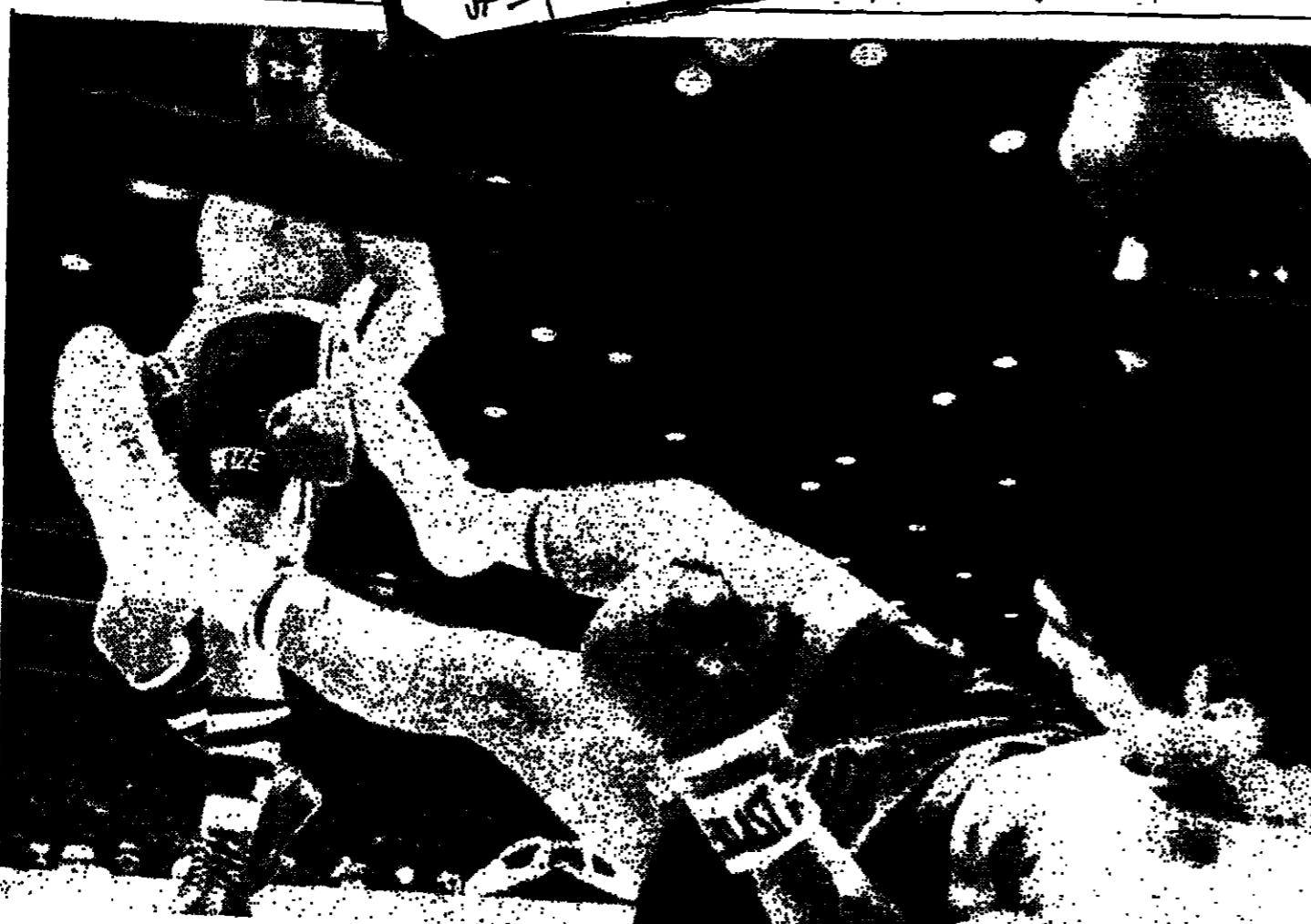
India is already one up in the series having won the fourth Test in Madras last week.

Gavaskar, who scored 119 and out, passed a landmark when he reached 77. He topped Sir Garfield Sobers' record of 1,920 runs, which had stood as the highest total scored by a player in Test matches between the two sides.

Chetan Chauhan and Gavaskar put on 119 for the first wicket before Chauhan mistimed a hook off fast bowler Norbert Philip and was caught at square-leg. He made an impressive 60.

NZ boys rally

AUCKLAND, Jan. 24 (AP) — The Young New Zealand cricket team spent most of Wednesday compiling 234 runs after an early collapse on the first day of their match against Pakistan at Smallbone Park.



PROMISING: Kalle Knoetze stands over Bill Sharkey after the 4th-round knockout Dec. 13 in Miami but future hopes depend on the U.S. hearing.

Knoetze: Hedged in by politics and the past

HALLANDALE, Florida, Jan. 24 (AP) — By now, South African boxer Kalle Knoetze is home again, relaxing with his wife and son. He might return to the United States soon to fight Leon Spinks in another step toward a cham-

pionship bout.

Or he might fade into obscurity, a promising heavyweight defeated by politics and his own past.

Knoetze came here nearly a month ago to begin training for his Jan. 13 Miami Beach

fight with unknown Bill Sharkey. He left Tuesday as a controversial symbol of South African apartheid who may be permanently barred from the United States.

"I want to fight in the U.S.A. again. I want to win the championship," Knoetze said.

The usually playful Knoetze was frowning as he hurried his powerful frame over a drink at a beachfront hotel. "Oh, I have such a headache," he groaned. "I never get headaches, but I've had one all day."

Knoetze, 26, spent most of his last full day in America Monday in the court of U.S. District Judge Norman C. Roettger, who will rule on Knoetze's plea to enjoin the State Department permanently from revoking Knoetze's visa. The State Department revoked the visa for an obstruction of justice conviction he received while a policeman in South Africa.

The case was continued until Friday. Knoetze's attorneys will seek to prove that the conviction would be a misdemeanor under U.S. law, and that the visa was revoked because of political pressure brought by civil rights groups after an earlier incident in which Knoetze shot and crippled a black youth was publicized.

Knoetze went to Gulfstream Race track after his hearing, and reported that he won \$44

on the first race, then "lost it all." The races failed to calm his nerves and he restlessly paced through the spacious hotel while his attorneys and agents discussed plans over dinner.

The court action is crucial to his agents' plans to arrange a meeting with former champion Spinks, and to his boxing future. A boxer unable to fight in the United States, hub of world boxing, would be doomed.

Ironically, as Knoetze scored his 16th knockout in 19 fights by beating Sharkey, the South African Boxing Commission voided his national title by declaring an end to separate championships for blacks and whites.

"How about that? I'm over here working hard, having problems, and I fight and win. And the best they can do for me is take my title away from me," he said.

Knoetze idolizes world champ Muhammad Ali, but said he's certain Ali won't fight again. "He is the best there is, but he is too old. I have seen Spinks fight twice, both Ali fights. It would be a good fight, but I'm sure I could beat him," he said, adding confidently, "I'm not caught in the middle of politics, I'm at the top of the heavyweights."

Talking about the racial unrest that grips South Africa, Knoetze said, "Sure I think about it and worry about it," he said.

Knicks hit 50% of shots but Lakers go one better

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP) — The Knicks' first visit to Los Angeles this season resulted in a 147-124 loss to the Lakers. Tuesday night the home team went one better.

Hitting 63 of 92 field goal attempts, a torrid .685 percentage, the Lakers routed the Knicks, 148-124, in a game that saw little effective defense played by either team. It was Los Angeles' highest point total of the National Basketball Association season.

Forward Adrian Dantley shot 11-for-19 and scored 30 points. Other Lakers had equally impressive numbers. Jamal Wilkes was 13-for-15 for 28 points, Kareem Abdul-

Jabbar 8-for-22 for 19, Norm Nixon 7-for-9 for 16 and Don Ford 7-for-8 for 16.

However, the hottest shooter of the night was New York's Bob McAdoo, who made 17 consecutive field goal attempts and scored 45 points, his high as a Knick. McAdoo missed his attempt to tie the NBA record of 18 consecutive field goals, set by Wilt Chamberlain, when his 12-foot jumper midway through the final period rattled the rim and fell off.

The Knicks hit 50 percent of their shots, good enough to win most games but not good enough to beat the sizzling Lakers.

Evert defeated

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, Jan. 24 (AP) — Greer Stevens of South Africa upset first-seeded Chris Evert 6-2, 6-3 in a \$150,000 tournament in Evert's hometown Tuesday night.

Usually, Evert steadily returns whatever is hit at her until her opponent makes a mistake. This time, however, the unseeded Stevens hit strong forehands and maintained steady play with her usually shaky backhand.

In Philadelphia, Gene Mayer of the United States rallied from a 1-3 deficit in the opening set to defeat No. 13-seeded Tim Gullikson, 6-4, 6-3, in second-round play of the \$250,000 U.S. Pro Indoor Tennis Championship here Tuesday.

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Fords supreme

Mikkola stretches Monte lead

MONTE CARLO, Jan. 24 (UPI) — Finland's Hannu Mikkola Wednesday stretched his lead in the 47th Monte Carlo auto rally to almost a minute over Sweden's Bjorn Waldegaard as both men pushed their Ford Escorts clear of the pack in one of Europe's severest tests of driving skill and stamina.

On almost dry roads, Mikkola totaled 5 hours 8 minutes and 55 seconds after 13 of the 16 trials on the grueling 1,300km Monaco-Cap-Digne-Monaco section boosting Ford's hopes for its first rally victory since 1953.

Waldegaard clocked 5:09:49, well clear of third-placed Markku Alen of Finland who totaled 5:15:11 for the rally, the first event of the World Rally Championship.

Just before the beginning



SPOILS: Argentine Grand Prix victor Jacques Laffite of France holds up his trophy this week as Carlos Reutemann of Argentina (center), who was second, and John Watson of Northern Ireland, third, join the revels

of the 12th trial at Montalieu. Andruet dozed off at the wheel and ran off the road — the result of four days driving with very little sleep.

A total of 164 competitors were still in the race but Mikkola and Waldegaard were supreme. Both men clocked 14 minutes 50 seconds for the 20km Montalieu section with Andruet the next best placed on 15:15.

After a break of a hour at Digne, the Fiats launched a

strong counter-attack on the 13th run but although they filled the first three places they only caught up slightly on the Fords.

Alen won in 12 minutes 42 seconds, second was Rohrl on 12:45 and Andruet clocked 12:47. Two seconds behind came Mikkola on 12:49 with Waldegaard posting 12:50.

Tuesday, decisive moment came when defending champion Jean-Pierre Nicolas crashed his Porsche into a wall of snow on the first stage.

Down to 220

U.S. cuts NASL foreigners quota

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — The U.S. Labor Department drastically curtailed Tuesday the number of foreign players that can enter the United States this year to play for teams in the North American Soccer League.

The department said that only 220 professional soccer players may be admitted between Feb. 1 and Sept. 30, down from the 246 the league requested, one more than last year.

Each of the 22 U.S. teams will be permitted to receive 10 players. The two Canadian teams are not affected.

The department, which also raised the minimum salary to \$850 a month to \$1,300 also said certificates could not be reused unless a player was

injured or quit the club voluntarily and left the country.

Last year, according to union leader Ed Garvey, 243 visas were issued for foreign soccer players but actually 476 players entered the country, almost twice the number.

Garvey, staff director of the NASL Players Union, said last year's practice deprived Americans of jobs because they were not given a chance to fill the slots when a foreign player left.

Team owners are known to feel strongly that the teams depend on foreigners to survive because they believe there aren't enough skilled Americans to pull in the crowds, a point disputed by Garvey. About 60 per cent of league players are foreign.

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Devaluation seen in controlled float

Pretoria to free rand from dollar

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 24 (AP) —

Finance Minister Owen Horwood said Wednesday the government has decided to embark on a new monetary policy aimed at easing foreign exchange controls and freeing the rand from the U.S. dollar, to enhance foreign investment.

He said gradual implementation of the plan would start

immediately, but that it would have no immediate effect on the value of the rand, which is pegged at 1.15 rand to the dollar.

"We have a sufficient investment capital and our aim is to strengthen the private sector stimulating foreign investment," he told a news conference.

Exports blocked, new markets sought

Iran troubles hurt S. Africans

DURBAN, Jan. 24 (AP) — Many South African firms are rushing to find alternative overseas markets as the Iranian crisis deepens and exports to Iran are blocked on a wide scale, the South African Press Association (SAPA) reported Wednesday.

Warehouses and factories were jammed fully throughout the country, and there were fears that if commodities could not be exported within the next few weeks, they

would have to be put on the local market — at sharply reduced prices.

The luxury car market had taken one of the hardest knocks, SAPA said.

The BMW factory in Pretoria said that it had now been forced to halt a 3,000 car contract with Iran — worth about \$35 million.

"Until this month we have been sending 150 cars a month to Iran," an official said. "We have letters of credit, but we

Horwood aired his views in conjunction with the release of a government study that recommended a complete overhaul of the nation's monetary policies to stimulate investment and economic growth.

The study commission recommended that in the long run the rand should be allowed to float under guidance

from the Central Reserve Bank with limited exchange controls.

The release of the report caused a flurry of speculation in financial circles. The stock market closed its doors and banks ceased to exchange foreign currencies until Friday in anticipation that it would result in a devaluation of the rand.

But Horwood denied that any revision in the exchange rate was envisaged in the plans for a float.

"There is no question of a devaluation or a revaluation (of the rand)," he said. "It will be a managed float and the rand will find its own level under reserve bank supervision."

The rand has been pegged at 1.15 to the dollar since the currency was devolved by 18.5 per cent against the dollar in late 1975.

Horwood said the decision to ease currency rules was primarily to attract investors, who have shied away from South Africa because of its restrictions against the export of capital.

Foreign companies operating in South Africa can only export their capital and profits with approval of the reserve bank. Individuals are limited to 2,000 rand annually for travel and 10,000 rand when they emigrate.



GAS FLARED: Associated gas from United Arab Emirates production being flared. Wednesday a UAE petroleum official was quoted as saying that his country might increase oil production by 10 per cent to cover some of the Iranian shortfall.

Biggest jump in four years

U.S. consumer prices up 9%

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) —

United States consumer prices rose nine per cent in 1978, the largest increase in four years, but the inflation picture improved in the last two months of the year, the Labor Department said Wednesday.

Price increases were held to 0.6 per cent in December be-

cause of smaller increases in medical costs and the property tax cost in California, the department said.

But food prices began spiraling again, rising 0.8 per cent for the month, owing mainly to higher meat and milk prices.

The purchasing power of the average worker declined 0.1

per cent in the month and by 3.4 per cent over the course of the year, the department said.

The nine per cent increase for the year is the largest since a 12.2 per cent rise in 1974.

Food prices rose 11.6 per cent over the year, while housing costs went up 9.9 per cent, medical care 8.8 per cent, transport 7.7 per cent and entertainment 5.8 per cent. Housing prices increased 1.1 per cent and interest rates were 1.6 per cent higher.

The 0.6 per cent increase in December would amount to between seven and eight per cent if it continued for a full year. It followed a smaller increase of 0.5 per cent in November.

The consumer price index ended the year at 202.9, mean-

ing that the average products that cost \$100 in the base period of 1967 cost \$202.90 in December.



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3	—	—	—	—
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5	—	—	—	—
6	—	—	—	—
7	—	—	—	—
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10	—	—	—	—
11	—	—	—	—
12	—	—	—	—
13	ARAB-AL-AHSAA	SADAKA	DURRA	22/1/1979
14	MARE TRANQUILLO	BAROOM	BAGGED CEMENT	5/1/1979
15	—	—	—	—
16	—	—	—	—
17	—	—	—	—
18	ACHILLEUS	ROLACO	BULK CEMENT	18/1/1979
19	GERARD L.D.	ALSABAH	BULK CEMENT	22/1/1979
20	EAGLE	S.A.M.A.	BAGGED BARLEY	22/1/1979
21	ELLI II	A.A.	BAGGED CEMENT	9/1/1979
22	NISSOS SAMOS	O.C.E.	FROZEN POULTRY	13/1/1979
23	FILIPINAS SAUDI I	S.A.M.A.	ACCOMMODATION SHIP	—
24	—	—	—	—
25	SONIA SOPHIA S*	GULF RED SEA	GENERAL MARBLE/TILES EXHIBITION SHIP	21/1/1979 21/1/1979 23/1/1979
26	CHINTA	—	GENERAL	16/1/1979
27	TOR SCANDANIA	ALATAS WILLOW	—	—
28	—	—	—	—
29	PUMA	STAR NAV.	FRUITS	12/1/1979

RO RO

2-Recent Arrivals

NAME OF VESSEL	AGENT	CARS	CONTAINERS	ARR.DATE
EVER HUMANITY	GULF	—	—	23/1/1979 24/1/1979

3-Vessels Expected With in 24 Hours

NAME OF VESSEL	AGENT	DURRA	—	ARR.DATE
TADIOURA	ABDALLAH	—	—	34/1/1979
VERBENA	ALIREZA	—	—	—
ELSFLETH	M.E.S.A.	—	—	—
TROLL FOREST	MEDCO	—	—	—
CHAR LO	ABDALLAH	—	—	—
PICHTELBERG	A.Y.	—	—	—
JOLLY MARRONE	ABDALLAH	—	—	—
SAINT SERVAN	SINDI	—	—	—
MARQUIS	A.E.T.	—	—	—

4-Tonnages Discharged: (Freight Tons): 36,029

5-Waiting Time: NIL

Note: Importers having goods on the above mentioned ships should complete their formalities as soon as possible. For any inquiries please contact the Shipping Agents.

UAE may produce 10 percent more oil

ABU DHABI, Jan. 24 (R) — United Arab Emirates Petroleum and Mineral Resources Undersecretary Sheikh Hamidi has said there is a possibility his country could raise oil production by 10 per cent to meet part of the Iranian oil deficit, but ruled out a large-scale increase, the official Emirates News Agency reported Wednesday.

But he said there was a possibility of a 10 per cent increase to help make up the Iranian losses.

The agency, which interviewed Hamidi in London, quoted him as saying, "The door is not closed to a maximum production increase of 10 per cent if need be."

Hamidi said the UAE was approached by a number of world oil firms to increase its daily oil output of 1.35 million barrels.

He added the question of stepping up production would be decided upon in coordination with other members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

(In Kuwait, an official source at the Oil Ministry Tuesday said Kuwait would agree to a short-term increase of five to 10 per cent of oil supplies to companies affected by the situation in Iran.)

Hamidi said the UAE was working to improve and develop its oil fields to meet any future production increase required for the country's production.

He said last month's OPEC decision to increase oil prices this year by 14.5 per cent would not make up losses sustained by oil producers during the past two years as a result of the decline of the dollar, world inflation and Western price rises.

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4-Tonnages Discharged: (Freight Tons): 26,828

5-WAITING TIME: NIL

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JEDDAH OFFICE: Tel: 23801
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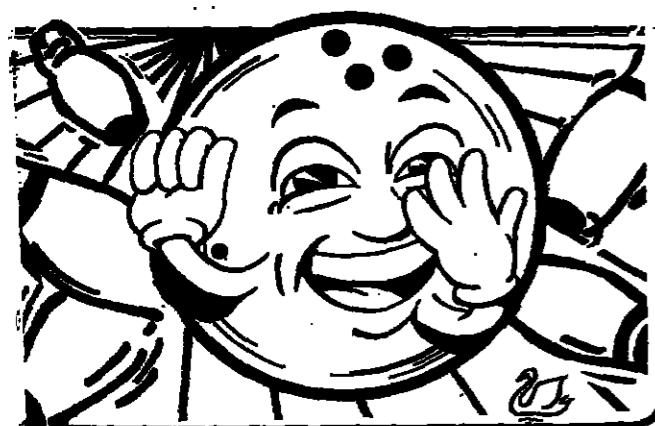
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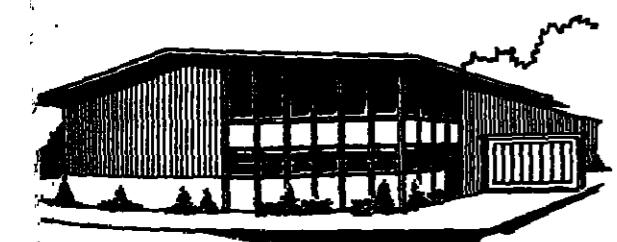
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PAGE 14

PLO denies involvement

Israel warned of produce poisoning

THE HAGUE, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — A group calling itself the "Arab Revolutionary Army" has threatened to poison Israeli exports of fruit and vegetables to Europe, according to letters posted to governments in the last few days.

Both the Dutch and Swedish governments received letters signed by the "A.R.A." — believed to stand for Arab Revolutionary Army — saying the poisoning would be on a large scale and affect all seasonal citrus fruit.

A letter posted in London said copies had also been sent to countries within the European Economic Community, as well as Romania and Yugoslavia.

Last year the A.R.A. sent similar letters to European governments and shortly afterwards Israeli-grown oranges injected with metallic mercury were discovered in Britain, Holland, West Germany, Belgium and Switzerland. Six children were taken ill but not seriously affected.

The first reports of the decision to stop playing South

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) issued a denial in Damascus that it had anything to do with the recent letters and said it had not heard of the Arab Revolutionary Army.

The letters threatened that last year's campaign would be intensified and this time lethal doses of poison would be used, unless certain demands were met.

The demands laid out in the London letter said such actions would continue until "the foun-

dation of a democratic state in all Palestine" which corresponds to the hard line rejectionists' policy.

In the Hague a government spokesman said the threat was being taken seriously. Customs officials were being alerted to check on shipments of Israeli produce.

The letters were written in English. Last year's letters were posted in the West German city of Stuttgart.

Israeli officials said Wednesday they were thinking of ways

of dealing with the new threat.

Yahalom Schehory, deputy director-general of the Agriculture Ministry said, "The thing now is to keep the public from getting panicky for no reason."

"Israel and the other governments involved are being very careful," Ms. Schehory said. She emphasized the small number of oranges involved in last year's incidents and said she hoped the experience "will convince the public that they should not panic."

Israeli Olympic panel dilutes position against South Africa

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — The chairman of Israel's Olympic Committee Wednesday denied reports that Israel has decided to cut off sporting ties with South Africa, but said he would "limit" contacts with South African sportsmen.

The first reports of the decision to stop playing South

Africa sparked protest from South Africa and Israeli Education Minister Zevulun Hammer.

Yitzhak Ofek, chairman of the Israeli Olympic Committee, said, "we did not decide to sever our connections with South Africa, but we will freeze or limit our relations with them. We will act according

to international sports regulations."

In a communiqué, Hammer charged that the Olympic Committee took a politically significant decision without consulting the government.

He said Israel has been hurt "by the mixing of politics and sport...and therefore I find very surprising the committee's decision and its political grounds."

South Africa's Ambassador to Israel, Charles Fincham, told state television he was "disappointed" by the decision, and said he should have been consulted about the move which affected "the relations between two friendly countries."

The International Olympic Committee cut off relations with South Africa in 1970, and most international sports federations followed suit. Only a few of the international federations, including those for gymnastics, fencing, tennis, judo and rugby still hold competitions with South Africa.

Francesco Berardi last year

cheat after an ambush by two terrorists outside his home.

Italy's powerful trade union federation swiftly condemned the assassination and called for a two-hour general strike throughout the country Thursday.

Within an hour of Wednesday's attack a telephone caller told a Genoa newspaper, "Red Brigades speaking. This morning we have executed Guido Rossa, a spy of Ital sicher."

The killing of Rossa, an official of the Communist Metal Workers Union and also a member of his company's workers council, drew spontaneous protest demonstrations.

Workers downed tools and marched through Genoa's center with angry denunciations of the government's failure to eradicate political terrorism.

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